

SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: Transportation Committee

BILL: PCS/SB 254

INTRODUCER: Senator Dockery

SUBJECT: Designations

DATE: March 30, 2006

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Woods	Meyer	TR	Pre-meeting
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				

I. Summary:

Section 334.071, F.S., specifies the purpose and effect of the designation of roads, bridges, and other transportation facilities for honorary or memorial purposes by the Florida Legislature. The Proposed Committee Substitute (PCS) for SB 254 designates the following road, bridges, and buildings as follows:

- That portion of N.W. 7th Avenue between N.W. 54th Street and N.W. 60th Street in Miami-Dade County is designated as "Osun's Village."
- That portion of N.W. 7th Avenue between N.W. 36th Street and N.W. 79th Street in Miami-Dade County is designated as "African Caribbean Cultural Arts Corridor."
- The pedestrian overpass on John Sims Parkway in the City of Niceville in Okaloosa County is designated as "Burl Marler Walkway."
- The Cervantes Street Bridge on U.S. Highway 90 over Bayou Texar in the City of Pensacola in Escambia County is designated as "Dr. Phillip A. Payne Bridge."
- That portion of S.W. 1st Street between 8th Avenue and 12th Avenue in Miami-Dade County is designated as "Carlos C. Lopez-Aguilar Way."
- That portion of 7th Avenue between N.W. 62nd Street and N.W. 95th Street in Miami-Dade County is designated as "Reverend Samuel Atchison Boulevard."
- The Department of Transportation District Six Headquarters commonly known as the Main Building, which is located at 1000 N.W. 111th Avenue in the City of Miami, Miami-Dade County is designated as "The Adam Leigh Cann Building."
- The Florida Turnpike interchange being constructed at Milepost 240 and Kissimmee Park Road in Osceola County is designated as "Senator N. Ray Carroll Memorial Interchange."

- That portion of State Road 944 on N.W. 54th Street between U.S. Highway 1 and N.E. 2nd Avenue in Miami-Dade County is designated as “Toussaint L'Ouverture Boulevard.”
- That portion of State Road 944 on N.W. 54th Street between N.E. 2nd Avenue and N.W. 7th Avenue in Miami-Dade County is designated as “Reverend Gerard Jean-Juste Boulevard.”
- That portion of N.W. 135th Street between N.W. 27th Avenue and N.W. 37th Avenue in Miami-Dade County is designated as “A.B. Martin Street.”
- That portion of Old U.S. Highway 441 between David Walker Drive and Eudora Road in Lake County is designated as “Leighton Lee Baker Memorial Highway.”
- That portion of S.W. 10th Street between F.A.U. Research Park Boulevard and the Sawgrass Expressway in the City of Deerfield Beach in Broward County is designated as “Trinchi Boulevard.”
- That portion of State Road 35 from County Road 35A north to the Pasco County line in Pasco County designated as “John Van Waters Memorial Highway.”
- That portion of Calle Ocho (S.W. 8th Street) between S.W. 87th Avenue and S.W. 97th Avenue in Miami-Dade County designated as “Dr. Emilio Ochoa Boulevard.”
- That portion of Main Street between West 6th Street and West 8th Street in Duval County is designated as “Ms. Eddie Mae Steward Avenue.”
- That portion of Main Street between West 37th Street and West 46th Street in Duval County is designated as “Dr. Mary L. Austin Jones Avenue.”
- That portion of Main Street between West 8th Street and West 18th Street in Duval County is designated as “Mrs. Flossie Brunson Avenue.”
- That portion of U.S. Highway 1 between Finch Avenue and Trout River Boulevard in Duval County is designated as “Dr. Robert L. Brown, Sr., Highway.”
- That portion of Lem Turner Road between Interstate 95 and Edgewood Avenue in Duval County is designated as “Ms. Barbara Van Blake Parkway.”
- That portion of Florida First Coast Highway beginning at Burney Road and continuing north through the 5500 block of Florida First Coast Highway in Nassau County is designated as “Ms. MaVynnee "The Beach Lady" Betsch Highway.”
- That portion of State Road 188 between State Road 189 and State Road 85 in Okaloosa County is designated as “Brian D. Little Road.”
- That portion of State Road 414 known as Maitland Boulevard that extends west from U.S. Highway 441 to the City of Apopka before heading north to U.S. Highway 441 near County Road 437, which is commonly known as Maitland Boulevard Extension in Orange County is designated as “John Land Apopka Expressway.”
- The replacement bridge over Lake Jesup on State Road 46 near Sanford in Seminole County is designated as “George C. Means Memorial Bridge.”
- The portion of State Road 520 between mile post 13.2 and mile post 15.3 and lies approximately between the West Banana River and Cape Canaveral Hospital in Brevard County is designated as “Patrick D. Smith Causeway.”
- The Canal Park Bridge on U.S. Highway 98 in the City of Mexico beach in Bay County is designated as the “Charles M. Parker Bridge.”
- That portion of U.S. Highway 301 from State Road 40 in Marion County through the City of Waldo in Alachua County is designated as “Rosa Parks Memorial Highway.”
- At the one mile marker on Interstate Highway 10 in Escambia County is designated as “Austin Dewey Gay Memorial Agricultural Inspection Station.”

- The Department of Transportation (FDOT) is directed to erect the suitable markers.

II. Present Situation:

Section 334.071, F.S., provides: (1) Legislative designations of transportation facilities are for honorary or memorial purposes, or to distinguish a particular facility, and may not be construed to require any action by local governments or private parties regarding the changing of any street signs, mailing addresses, or 911 emergency telephone number system listings, unless the legislation specifically provides for such changes; (2) When the Legislature establishes road or bridge designations, FDOT is required to place markers only at the termini specified for each highway segment or bridge designated by the law creating the designation, and to erect any other markers it deems appropriate for the transportation facility; and (3) The FDOT may not erect the markers for honorary road or bridge designations unless the affected city or county commission enacts a resolution supporting the designation. When the designated road or bridge segment is located in more than one city or county, resolutions supporting the designations must be passed by each affected local government prior to the erection of the markers.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The effects of this PCS are as follows:

- **Section 1:** That portion of N.W. 7th Avenue between N.W. 54th Street and N.W. 60th Street in Miami-Dade County is designated as "Osun's Village." Magic Johnson's Burger King was the first building in Osun's Village to be completed in the African Caribbean style. Prominently situated on the corner of Northwest 7th Avenue and 54th Street, Magic Johnson's Burger King anchors the South gateway entrance to the African Caribbean Cultural Arts and Entertainment Corridor (ACCAC) and is a source of pride for Liberty City. In Osun's Village the color and symbolism integrated into the unique design speaks to the African, Caribbean, and Latin origins of this ethnically diverse community. The exterior pillars of the restaurant are decorated in mosaic tiles that have been installed by locally-based craftsmen as a community arts initiative. The restaurant's walls feature the original art work by area artists installed and curated by Community Builders Holistic Development Corporation. The present structure was built in 1952 and has served as a beauty salon and bar, continuously owned and operated by area residents. The restaurant and bar is currently known for its delicious grilled Barbecue Chicken and Ribs, as well as authentic Bahamian cuisine. A special feature is the live Bahamian and Haitian Band that provide weekend entertainment. Bold gestured modifications to the parapet along with an expressive smoke stack and outside cooking and eating stay with neon signage and other canopied elements illustrate how the existing activities of The Shantel Lounge can be further enhanced to create an attractive themed dining environment. The new Osun's Village gateway arch will greet visitors at the northern entry of Osun's Village, as pictured looking south. The Cultural Plaza will be a focus of Liberty City. It will feature a new facade treatment and Open-Air Market infill with Greenspace Courtyard for outdoor seating and vending. Bold geometric forms and African and Caribbean influenced Architectural features are the basis for this composition. Established in the 1960's, this facility was the campaign headquarters for the former Congresswoman Carrie Meek's first political campaign. It now serves as the oldest bookstore (est. 1977) catering to the African-American literary interests of Miami-Dade County Residents.

- **Section 2** That portion of N.W. 7th Avenue between N.W. 36th Street and N.W. 79th Street in Miami-Dade County is designated 24 as "African Caribbean Cultural Arts Corridor." Miami offers a special allure to black visitors -- with a rich cultural history that dates back over one hundred years to the time of the city's founding. A plethora of cultural institutions, museums and performance groups dedicated to celebrating the black experience, along with an ever-expanding schedule of entertainment events and festivals all signify a city that embraces its black heritage and is committed to fostering black tourism.
- **Section 3:** The pedestrian overpass on John Sims Parkway in the City of Niceville in Okaloosa County is designated as "Burl Marler Walkway." The designation will honor Burl Marler, a resident of the City of Niceville who traveled John Sims Parkway daily and touched a great number of residents during his travels.
- **Section 4:** The Cervantes Street Bridge on U.S. Highway 90 over Bayou Texar in the City of Pensacola in Escambia County is designated as "Dr. Phillip A. Payne Bridge." The designation will honor Dr. Phillip A. Payne who grew up along Bayou Texar in Pensacola, Florida, and was a lifelong environmentalist. He founded the Bayou Texar Foundation and was active in several other environmental groups in Pensacola. He was a well-respected dentist in the area until he passed away in July of 2005.
- **Section 5:** That portion of S.W. 1st Street between 8th Avenue and 12th Avenue in Miami-Dade County is designated as "Carlos C. Lopez-Aguilar Way." The designation will honor Carlos C. Lopez-Aguilar who is an attorney in Miami, Florida. He is also a philanthropist who supports higher education in Miami-Dade County.
- **Section 6:** That portion of 7th Avenue between N.W. 62nd Street and N.W. 95th Street in Miami-Dade County is designated as "Reverend Samuel Atchison Boulevard." Reverend Samuel Atchison is a board member of the National Baptist Convention. He is Also Chairman of the Board for the Florida East Coast Missionary Baptist Church, Ministers and Deacon's Union, Southern Division. Reverend Atchison was awarded the honor of representing the United States by preaching at the Baptist World Alliance. Only one other American has earned that opportunity. He has been the pastor of the Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church for 40 Years. Its membership has grown from 275 in 1963 to over 4000 in 2006.
- **Section 7:** The Department of Transportation District Six Headquarters commonly known as the Main Building, which is located at 1000 N.W. 111th Avenue in the City of Miami, Miami-Dade County is designated as "Adam Leigh Cann Building." Marine Sgt. Adam Leigh Cann was killed by a suicide bomber in Iraq -- one of an estimated 58 people killed in the Ramadi bombing. The bomber had infiltrated a line of police recruits in the city north of Baghdad. A second U.S. soldier also died in the attack. Dozens more were wounded. They included Adam's roommate and another friend, his father said. Adam joined the military after graduating from South Plantation High School in 2000. He was on his second Iraqi tour in his second enlistment with the military. He already had served one tour in Afghanistan and another in Iraq. But he wanted to go back. Adam signed up again. Adam's second Iraqi tour started near the borders of Jordan and Syria, but Adam asked to be moved deeper into Iraq. Adam wanted to be closer to the action.

Adam served with a K-9 unit used for security, like detecting bombs and narcotics. Adam also was in charge of five other K-9 units spread between five bases.

- Section 8:** The Florida Turnpike interchange being constructed at Milepost 240 and Kissimmee Park Road in Osceola County is designated as “Senator N. Ray Carroll Memorial Interchange.” Noble Ray Carroll was born May 29, 1886. From 1918 until 1926, he spent the winter months in Sharpes, Florida where he owned a grove. In 1926 he owned and operated “Carrollton”, a 50,000 acre cattle ranch at Deer Park. In 1942, he moved to Kissimmee where he had been a director of the First National Bank since 1938. He managed the bank until 1943 when he became its president. He remained in that capacity until 1960. During this time he also served in leadership positions of several other banks around the state, as well as being a board member of the Atlanta District Federal Reserve Bank. In 1939, he won the election to the Florida House of Representatives from Osceola County and was re-elected to the House. In 1942, he was elected to the State Senate, serving there for ten years prior to his retiring in 1952, when he was appointed to the Judicial Council of Florida. During his career, Mr. Carroll also served as the president of the Kissimmee Kiwanis Club, as well as district governor of Kiwanis International. N. Ray Carroll’s career ended with his death in Kissimmee on May 19, 1960.
- Section 9:** That portion of State Road 944 on N.W. 54th Street between U.S. Highway 1 and N.E. 2nd Avenue in Miami-Dade County is designated as “Toussaint L'Ouverture Boulevard.” Pierre Dominique Toussaint L'Ouverture, his surname deriving from his bravery in battle where he once made a breach in the ranks of the enemy, was born a slave on Breda plantation, St. Domingue (Haiti), in 1746.

Toussaint first fought the French, then the Spaniards in the eastern half of the island (now the Dominican Republic). Then he fought against General Maitland and his English army. His tattered army victorious, he now ruled all the island of Haiti.

Napoleon sent an armada of 46 ships to Haiti's harbours, carrying an army of 46,000 men to subdue Toussaint and his people. At first, the Haitian was overwhelmed and dismayed at the vastness of Napoleon's army. Turning to a strategy of "burnt earth", he summoned his second in command and successor Dessalines and instructed him:

"Remember that this soil nourished on our blood and sweat must not yield a crumb of food to our enemies. Keep all roads under constant fire. Throw the bodies of horses and men into all wells and springs, destroy everything, burn everything."

The three terrible allies, Toussaint, yellow fever and dysentery reduced Napoleon's army to a shamble. In the end, having lost 60,000 men, Napoleon withdrew from the New World and gave up his designs on Haiti and Louisiana

Toussaint had secured the freedom of Haiti. His actions were of direct benefit to the infant Federation of the United States, to whom Napoleon sold Louisiana. Toussaint, however, did not see the end. Betrayed by one of his friends, French General Brunet, he was kidnapped and taken to France. As the ship sailed into the rolling Atlantic swells, Haiti hardly more than a memory hovering on the horizon, Toussaint said. "In overthrowing me, you have cut down in Haiti only the trunk of the tree of liberty. It will spring up again by the roots, for they are numerous and

deep." Toussaint L'Ouverture died ten months later in a fortress in the bleak and wintry Jura Mountains, but the roots of the tree sprouted again and in 1804 Haiti were finally free.¹

- **Section 10:** That portion of State Road 944 on N.W. 54th Street between N.E. 2nd Avenue and N.W. 7th Avenue in Miami-Dade County is designated as "Reverend Gerard Jean-Juste Boulevard." Reverend Gerard Jean-Juste was released Nov. 29 after being imprisoned for seven weeks by the interim Haitian government. According to reports, the police did not have a warrant and Rev. Jean-Juste was not charged with any crime. In an interview with reporters, Interim Prime Minister Gerard Latortue explained the arrest by saying that Jean-Juste's name has become associated with people suspected of organizing against the government.
- **Section 11:** That portion of N.W. 135th Street between N.W. 27th Avenue and N.W. 37th Avenue in Miami-Dade County is designated as "A.B. Martin Street." Approximately thirty years ago, A.B. Martin saw Opa Locka as an ideal place to establish his roofing company. He purchased land on the corner of N.W. 135th Street and N.W. 37th Avenue, and constructed an expensive building. In addition to this company, he owns and operates several other companies including, A.B. Martin Mortgage, A.B. Martin Lumber, A.B. Martin Building Supply, and A.B. Martin Transfer Station.

Never losing faith in the area, he made a decision in March 2000 to expand his businesses in Opa Locka by opening a restaurant. He felt the area was in need of a good family restaurant. Although his advisors tried to discourage him, he built and opened Crabby's Smoke House. During the last four and a half years, the business has grown and proven to be a success for both Crabby's and the community.

The community has benefited in several ways by the businesses that Mr. Martin has owned in the area. Primarily, Opa Locka benefited because these companies brought businesses, individuals, and customers from the surrounding sub-divisions into the area. Secondly, the city benefited from the income generated from taxes. Third, and probably most significantly, the citizens benefited from the job opportunities offered by the various companies. During the last 30 years, a vast number of local residents have been employed by Mr. Martin's company.

In addition, Mr. Martin works with Opa Locka Work Release Center. By hiring and training these men as either waiters or kitchen staff, Mr. Martin is giving these individuals a chance to learn a trade. When they are released from the center they have the opportunity to become productive citizens who can contribute to the community. Recently he expanded his relationship with the Work Release Center to include hiring for A.B. Martin Roofing.

In addition to his businesses and employment opportunities, Mr. Martin has been a strong supporter of the community. He has generously contributed to much of the community's financial needs and has sponsored numerous community events.

¹ Newsday Historical Digest , "TOUSSAINT L'OUVERTURE (1746-1803) AND THE STRUGGLE FOR A FREE HAITI", June 24, 2001

- **Section 12:** That portion of Old U.S. Highway 441 between David Walker Drive and Eudora Road in Lake County is designated as “Leighton Lee Baker Memorial Highway.” The Late Leighton Lee Baker, father of State Senator Carey Baker, served Lake County in the Florida House of Representatives from 1962 to 1964. Mr. Baker was born in Illinois in 1918. He served in the Illinois Reserve Militia followed by four years in the U.S. Army including serving as Rifle Platoon Leader, 79th Division. He received seven ribbons, two stars, the Combat Infantry Badge and Unit Citation. After being discharged from the Army, Mr. Baker moved on to Colorado to study gunsmithing at the Denver School of Gunsmithing, then taught for three years at the Colorado School of Trades and Trinidad State Junior College. In 1950, Mr. Baker purchased the A.W. Peterson Gun Shop in Colorado and moved it to Mount Dora, Florida and was awarded the Governor’s Gold Conservation Pin in 1957 for having taught the hunter safety course to more than 600 Lake and Marion County youths. He married Ann Elizabeth Brown of Nashville and had four sons. His gun shop still stands in a cypress wood cabin, one of the largest gun shops in Central Florida, now run by his sons including Senator Carey Baker. It continues to be a place where gun and hunting buffs come to talk shop and where history lovers come to hear the tales of yesteryear.
- **Section 13:** That portion of S.W. 10th Street between F.A.U. Research Park Boulevard and the Sawgrass Expressway in Deerfield Beach in Broward County is designated as “Trinchi Boulevard.” For nearly three decades, Amadeo “Trinchi” Trinchitella single-handedly shaped one of Florida’s biggest retirement communities into a Democratic political machine. He was courted by judges, members of Congress, even presidents. Trinchitella, 87, died after a heart attack. But he had been in declining health for years and seemed to personify the weakening of the once-formidable condominium vote. He was among the hundreds of thousands of New York retirees who came of age during the Depression, fought in World War II and retired to South Florida. They embraced Franklin Roosevelt’s vision of an activist federal government, cementing a lifelong bond with the Democratic Party and playing a big role in the political dynamics of Florida. Trinchitella’s neighbors rode trolleys to the polls and faithfully voted for candidates listed on palm cards Trinchi provided. It was not uncommon for candidates to get 90 percent of Century Village’s 15,000 votes. Election-eve rallies at Century Village’s clubhouse were not to be missed for Democratic candidates, lest they offend the boss. At Trinchitella’s peak of influence, President Clinton and Hillary Rodham Clinton used Century Village as a backdrop to unveil their ill-fated universal health care plan.
- **Section 14:** That portion of State Road 35 from County Road 35 A north to the Pasco County line in Pasco County designated as “John Van Waters Memorial Highway.”
- **Section 15:** That portion of Calle Ocho (S.W. 8th Street) between S.W. 87th Avenue and S.W. 97th Avenue in Miami-Dade County designated as “Dr. Emilio Ochoa Boulevard.” Ninety-nine year old Dr. Emilio “Millo” Ochoa is the last living person to sign the 1940 constitution of Cuba. He spoke to members of the Florida House Wednesday, March 15, 2006, in Tallahassee, Florida.
- **Section 16:** That portion of Main Street between West 6th Street and West 8th Street in Duval County is designated as “Ms. Eddie Mae Steward Avenue.” Ms. Eddie Mae Steward was one of Jacksonville’s leading advocates for civil and human rights.

- **Section 17:** That portion of Main Street between West 37th Street and West 46th Street in Duval County is designated as "Dr. Mary L. Austin Jones Avenue." Dr. Mary L. Austin Jones is a reverend in the City of Jacksonville whose outreach and ministries comfort and spiritually console families and individuals throughout the community.
- **Section 18:** That portion of Main Street between West 8th Street and West 18th Street in Duval County is designated as "Mrs. Flossie Brunson Avenue." Mrs. Flossie Brunson nearly single-handedly organized her community to turn a once blighted neighborhood into one that blossoms anew with energies and hope for its young people, young families and seniors.
- **Section 19:** That portion of U.S. Highway 1 between Finch Avenue and Trout River Boulevard in Duval County is designated as "Dr. Robert L. Brown, Sr., Highway." Dr. Robert L. Brown, a doctor in the City of Jacksonville, was a change agent for economic development efforts.
- **Section 20:** That portion of Lem Turner Road between Interstate 95 and Edgewood Avenue in Duval County is designated as "Ms. Barbara Van Blake Parkway." Ms. Barbara Van Blake taught mathematics for 12 years in Florida and was an active supporter of civil rights and labor union organizing.
- **Section 21:** That portion of Florida First Coast Highway beginning at Burney Road and continuing north through the 5500 block of Florida First Coast Highway in Nassau County is designated as "Ms. MaVynnee 'The Beach Lady' Betsch Highway." Ms. MaVynnee is the official historian and matriarch of American Beach.
- **Section 22:** That portion of State Road 188 between State Road 189 and State Road 85 in Okaloosa County is designated as "Brian D. Little Road." Brian D. Little provided exemplary public service for over nine years. In his career with the Florida Department of Transportation as a Professional Engineer, he was responsible for the design of numerous transportation improvements.

Brian's work ethic and leadership on the job is not the only passion he enjoyed. Brian gave graciously of his time and energy in raising money for charity. In 2000, he helped form the Panhandle Transportation Golf Association and has been directly responsible for raising over \$134,000 for charities between 2000 and 2005.

Brian grew up in Fort Walton Beach and participated in various sports at Choctaw high School. He was a member of the state championship football team for Choctaw in 1990. Following high school, Brian attended Auburn University and received a Bachelor's of Science and a Master's in Civil Engineering in December 1995 and December 2000, respectively.

He was employed by the Florida Department of Transportation from 1996 to 2006. He most recently served as District Roadway Design Engineer for the Department of Transportation District three (3) in the Florida panhandle.

Brian was a good role model on the job and spent many hours mentoring younger engineers. His love and concern for others will always be respected and remembered. Brian lost a four year battle with cancer on January 11, 2006. He was 32 years of age.

Brian's charity work benefited many and his attention to this cause brought about much publicity to charities in the engineering community. His hard work in the golf tournaments resulted in an annual charity golf event being named in honor of Brian. There will continue to be hundred of thousands of dollars going to charity in his memory.

- **Section 23:** That portion of State Road 414 known as Maitland Boulevard that extends west from U.S. Highway 441 to the City of Apopka before heading north to U.S. Highway 441 near County Road 437, which is commonly known as Maitland Boulevard Extension in Orange County is designated as "John Land Apopka Expressway."
- **Section 24:** The replacement bridge over Lake Jesup on State Road 46 near Sanford in Seminole County is designated as the "George C. Means Memorial Bridge." George C. Means was born in Jacksonville in 1916 and was a resident of this state until he died in 2005. George C. Means graduated from the University of Florida in 1938 with 4 years in the Reserve Officer Training Corps. Means accepted a commission as Second Lieutenant in the United States Army Reserve and during this service, came to Sanford as the first person hired under the Farm Security Administration in Seminole County in 1939. He administered the aerial photographing and plotting data needed to execute the "AAA" program for vegetable farmers. Means was called to active duty in 1940 to serve as the officer in charge of the Quartermaster Center in Tennessee, which was responsible for feeding 700,000 troops each day. He handled the logistics of shipping food to troops worldwide. In 1941, George C. Means married Minnie Lee King of Oviedo, and they moved to Oviedo where he came to work for Wheeler Fertilizer in 1947 as a salesman, a position from which he retired in 1985. Means was a charter member of the American Legion Post 243 in Oviedo, the Oviedo Historical Society, the Sons of Confederate Veterans, and the South Seminole Christian Church, while also being active in the Seminole County and Florida Farm Bureau agencies and the Seminole County Soil and Conservation Service. After returning from World War II, Means noticed that Lake Jesup was beginning to show signs of environmental distress, and he worked tirelessly to reconnect the flow of the St. Johns River back into Lake Jesup. In 1950, the State Road Department began a project to improve SR 46 and replace the wooden bridge that spanned the mouth of the lake with a fill-dirt causeway. Means, along with his contemporaries correctly predicted that great environmental harm would result from this isolation of the lake. Means took every opportunity to speak to elected officials and to educate everyone he met on the damage caused by the causeway. Until the end of his life, he educated and lobbied everyone who would listen. Means died shortly after the replacement bridge design had been adopted, and he knew that the problem would be addressed.
- **Section 25:** That portion of State Road 520 between mile post 13.2 and mile post 15.3 and lies approximately between the West Banana River and Cape Canaveral Hospital in Brevard County is designated as "Patrick D. Smith Causeway." Patrick D. Smith was born October 8, 1927, in Mendenhall, Mississippi, graduated from the University of Mississippi in 1947, and received his M.A. in 1959. Smith worked in public relations for several colleges and universities in Mississippi and moved to Florida in 1966 to become the director of public relations at Brevard Community College, retiring in 1988. Smith has authored several books addressing various social issues that, in his words, reflect "the plight of the underdogs in life." Smith's work, "The Beginning", highlights the struggles of poor whites and blacks in the south during the civil rights movement in the 1960's. Smith lived among the Seminole Indian Tribe while researching his

books, “Forever Island” and “Allapattah”, which highlight the Seminole Indians' struggle to cope with the modern world. Smith lived in several migrant worker camps while researching his book, “Angel City”, which focused on the virtual slavery of migrant workers. Smith was twice invited to attend Russia's writer's convention and while in Russia wrote the book, “In Search of the Russian Bear”, which is an intimate glimpse into the minds and hearts of the people of Russia who lived under the Iron Curtain. Smith honorably served his county as a merchant marine in World War II and later wrote the book, “The Seas that Mourn”, which tells the stories of brave merchant marines who served their county during that war. Smith's other works include, “The River is Home, “Forever Island”, and “A Land Remembered”. Smith's most recent work is “The Last Ride”, which he co-wrote with Glen “Pee Wee” Mercer, about a bull rider who was paralyzed in a bull-riding accident in 1995. Throughout his world travels, Smith has always ably represented the residents of this state and Brevard County.

- **Section 26:** The Canal Park Bridge on U.S. Highway 98 in the City of Mexico beach in Bay County is designated as the “Charles M. Parker Bridge.” Mr. Parker was the first mayor of City of Mexico Beach, Florida.
- **Section 27:** That portion of U.S. Highway 301 from State Road 40 in Marion County through the City of Waldo in Alachua County is designated as “Rosa Parks Memorial Highway.” Rosa Parks, a black seamstress whose refusal to relinquish her seat to a white man on a city bus in Montgomery, Alabama, almost 50 years ago grew into a mythic event that helped touch off the civil rights movement of the 1950's and 1960's, died at her home in Detroit. She was 92 years old.
- **Section 28:** At the one mile marker on Interstate Highway 10 in Escambia County is designated as “Austin Dewey Gay Memorial Agricultural Inspection Station.” Austin Dewey Gay graduated from Mason High School in Mason City, Florida. He served in U. S. Army from December 5, 1940 to August 6, 1945 where he attained the rank of Sergeant (T-5) and received an Honorable Discharge. July 1, 1966 he was employed with the Florida Department of Agriculture as a Road Guard Inspector I headquartered at Inspection Station No. 9A&B (Interstate 75) with a beginning salary of \$270.00 per month. On July 1, 1968 he reassigned from Inspection Station No. 9A&B to Inspection Station No. 11 located in Columbia County on US 441 21 miles north of Lake City at Benton Tower. On January 2, 1969 commended by Commissioner Doyle Conner for apprehending a shipment of stolen cattle at Inspection Station No. 11 on December 21, 1968. On December 3, 1971 he was promoted to Road Guard Inspector II and appointed Station Manager for Inspection Station No. 11. On April 14, 1979 (approximately 6 PM) Inspector Gay was abducted from his assigned post Inspection Station No. 11 and subsequently murdered. On April 20, 1979 Inspector Gay's body was found in rural Brooks County, Georgia near Quitman. On April 23, 1979 Inspector Gay's funeral was held at Parkview Baptist Church in Lake City. (Mr. Gay was a deacon of the Bethlehem Baptist Church at the time of his death). The death of Austin Gay was the impetus for having the road guards designated as sworn law enforcement officers.
- FDOT is directed to erect suitable markers.
- **Section 29:** An effective date of July 1, 2006 is provided.

IV. Constitutional Issues:**A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:**

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:**A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

B. Private Sector Impact::

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

FDOT estimates the cost to erect suitable road designating markers is \$20,800 (\$400 per marker). The expenditure is from the State Transportation Trust Fund. FDOT is also responsible for any future maintenance and replacement cost, which is indeterminate.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Summary of Amendments:

None.

This Senate staff analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.
